



October 2001

Volume XXXIV, No. 9

FREE

“I HAVE SEEN WAR.
I HAVE SEEN WAR ON LAND AND SEA,
I HAVE SEEN BLOOD RUNNING FROM THE WOUNDED . . .
I HAVE SEEN THE DEAD IN THE MUD.
I HAVE SEEN CITIES DESTROYED . . .
I HAVE SEEN CHILDREN STARVING.
I HAVE SEEN THE AGONY OF MOTHERS AND WIVES.

I HATE WAR.

On August 14, 1936, in Chautauqua, New York, Franklin D. Roosevelt expressed his abhorrence of all war when he gave a speech dedicated to peace.

How bizarre it was, in retrospect, to have read these words of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, carved in stone at his Memorial in Washington, D.C., just a few short days before the tragic events of September 11th. FDR's words haunt us.

The enormity of the disaster in New York City has affected us all — and, indeed, forced us to better understand the totality of how living in insular worlds has lulled us into a false security.

How do we reconcile our visions of peace for the world when a series of dastardly attacks shatter our dreams?

Mutual dreams for a better world have diminished in the ashes of what was once the World Trade Center.

Is there a special technique to healing? We've been struggling with the weight and horror of that fateful day in September, and need to reach out to others.

In this very small, unique Potrero Hill community of ours, we feel a kinship and closeness with neighbors, and trust that we will continue to live our lives together much the same as always.

There must be adjustments, however. We must recognize the difference between being a "busybody" and being truly interested and concerned about another's well-being . . . from our closest neighbors to the elected officials who will debate and vote for us. It is mean-

ingful to accept a neighbor's hand in friendship and to extend our own. One never knows when we will need each other.

On September 14, Rep. Barbara Lee (D., Ca.), who represents the 9th District which includes Oakland and Berkeley, stood alone in the Congressional vote that gave President Bush a \$40 billion budget to go to war against terrorism. She said "no."

In our freedoms, it is right and proper for an elected representative to say "no" to the administration. It has happened before. But in doing so, Lee has found herself on a tightrope of judgment: There are those who believe she was wrong.

We certainly don't feel that way, and support not only how she voted, but the

reasons for her vote, and now many of her colleagues are beginning to agree with her.

It is understandable to be impatient for action and retribution, but "justice requires patience, and infinite justice requires infinite patience."*

Please let us know how you are healing.

—The editorial staff of
The Potrero View

*from "Collateral Repair" by George Monbiot
(Guardian Unlimited, Tuesday, September 25, 2001)



Potrero Hill's Homeless, Part 2

— See Page 5

Name The
New Park
Contest
Winners
— See Page 10



GETTING INVOLVED

ROSES (Residents of the Southeast Sector) meets the first Thursday of each month (October 4) to discuss issues of public concern with members of the San Francisco Police Department. The Forum takes place at 7 p.m. in the Community Facility downstairs at 1800 Oakdale at Phelps. Refreshments after the meeting. October's agenda includes the Captain's report and an SFPUC presentation on "Southeast Water Pollution Plant Solids Handling Upgrade."

Potrero Hill Health Center Advisory Board meets on the first Monday of the month (October 1) from 4-5 p.m. Meetings, held at the Center at 1050 Wisconsin St., are open to the public.

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association meets the second Tuesday of the month (October 9) at 7 p.m., 950 Tennessee St. Agenda will include "Focussing on Homelessness." Invited speakers: Supervisor Sophie Maxwell and George Smith, Director, Mayor's Office of Homelessness.

PHAB (Potrero Hill Association of Merchants & Businesses) meets the second Tuesday of the month (October 9) at 10 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza, corner of Connecticut and 18th streets.

Starr King Park Board of Directors, which usually meets the second Wednesday of alternate months, has announced a one-time only change of date and locality due to a scheduling conflict. The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 13, 7 p.m., at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 853 De Haro, in the lower level art room. The Saturday morning work parties will continue every month on the third Saturday (October 20 and November 17) at 9 a.m. The park is located at Carolina and 23rd streets.

Potrero Hill Boosters Neighborhood Association meets the last Tuesday of the month (October 30) at the Potrero Hill Library, 1616 20th St.; 6:45 p.m. social, 7:00 business, 8:00 speakers. Muni representative Peter Strauss will discuss proposed changes in some bus schedules, including those on Potrero Hill. A meeting was scheduled for October 2 to debate ballot props F & I with a representative MUD (Municipal Utilities District).

Potrero Hill Garden Club meets the last Sunday of the month (October 28) at 11 a.m. for a potluck brunch in a local home or garden. Informal discussions will be held on a variety of subjects relating to organic, edible, or ornamental gardening appropriate for Potrero Hill's particular mini-climate. Please call 648-6740 for details.

PLAN (Potrero League of Active Neighbors) meets in executive session only. Anyone wishing to raise an issue for consideration by the board may phone Elizabeth at 826-6359.

— Winifred Mann

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Theatre Info Needed

Editor:

This letter may not rank high in importance or seriousness compared to articles on the homeless, benches or power plants, but every publication can use a little something on the light side now and then.

I am not a resident of the Hill, but read nearly all of the neighborhood newspapers from time to time. I have a San Francisco-oriented website <http://www.sfcchangehappens-books.com> that features S.F. theaters, including Potrero Hill's former New Potrero Theater and the York/Roosevelt/York/Brava Theater on 24th Street — not that far from the Hill.

I know that many San Franciscans from other parts of the city have moved to Potrero Hill over the years and I am seeking help in getting information regarding theaters in every neighborhood. Anyone who would like to share some information can contact me via e-mail or regular mail.

By coincidence, I am the author of a book about a hill. The title is "From 'The Top of the Hill' ... Growing up in the Daly City of the '20s and '30s."

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No Street Name Changes

Editor:

I am writing in response to your recent article on page 10 of the September issue of the Potrero View. I, like Lloyd, am a lifelong resident of Potrero Hill. In fact, I am a third generation resident of the Hill. And I am proud to say, that my son is a fourth generation resident. Not many people are able to make this claim.

After reading your article I have thought long and hard about your proposed street name changes and I am adamantly opposed. For 35 years I have seen the numbered street names. I learned to walk on these streets, played ball on these streets, learned to ride a bike on these streets, and learned to drive on these streets. I am proud of these streets!

I have seen many changes to our neighborhood in my lifetime — most of them for the better, but I fail to see how changing the street names benefits anyone.

I also happen to know the Lloyd that you speak of in your article and I am proud to say he has been a part of my life for 30 years. I can honestly say that I know of no other single person who has given so much of himself to his community as Lloyd. Perhaps you should rethink your conversation with Lloyd as it seems that you have failed to see wisdom.

Steven Dal Port
Arkansas Street

The writer's response:

The article was about two people who disagreed with each other and decided to seek common ground rather than belittle each other's position. I stated his position as he stated it to me. I knew that I would not change his mind during a phone call, so we discussed the subjects that we both knew about and agreed on.

I believe that people should strive to seek common ground and be respectful of other's opinions, even when they disagree. Lloyd and I did that and we each gained a little insight. I don't attribute any wisdom to my articles, they are for promoting Potrero Hill history and encouraging people to participate. Thanks for your contribution

- Lester Zeidman

You Light Up Our Lives

Editor:

Thanks to Robin on the 700 block of Kansas for her lighting of our block on Friday night, September 14, to participate in the candlelight remembrances of all the victims in New York.

It was a moving sight to see the block completely lined with candles. Thanks, Robin, for taking the time and energy to help us all.

The evening and unfortunate sad purpose will stay in our memories.

Wendy Shinburi
Kansas Street



Letters to the Editor must be signed when received by the newspaper. If you wish to be "anonymous" please say so, but we must receive letters with signatures and address.

Human Rights Commission Condemns Heightened Bigotry After Sept. 11 Tragedy

The San Francisco Human Rights Commission joins people all over the world who are horrified, shocked, and saddened by the despicable and senseless attacks in New York and Washington.

Many of us have family, friends, or acquaintances that were killed or injured in the attacks. At a time like this, our unity, our steadfastness to our democratic ideals, our commitment to respecting diversity, and upholding our civil liberties are most important. But in San Francisco and other parts of the country, Arab Americans, Muslim Americans, and people of Middle Eastern descent reeling from this horrible tragedy have been subjected to death threats

and actual acts of physical violence and verbal abuse.

These racist and bigoted attacks victimize a law-abiding and patriotic community, recalling the victimization of Japanese Americans during World War II. There have been attacks on children, teachers, businesses, places of worship, and individuals. Many members of the Arab, Muslim, and Middle Eastern communities are afraid to go out on the streets. The bigotry has even extended to people such as Sikhs and Latino individuals who are perceived to be Arab or Middle Eastern.

These scurrilous attacks are especially disheartening in San Francisco, a city

known for its respect for diversity and its embrace of many different cultures.

Mayor Willie Brown and Police Chief Fred Lau have issued strong statements condemning this bigotry and have pledged their resources to preventing and responding to these senseless acts.

On September 13, 2001, the Human Rights Commission unanimously passed a resolution condemning this bias and urging all San Francisco employers, managers, supervisors, and employees to hold themselves accountable to maintain a workplace and environment free of discriminatory practices and policies. We also urge the media to report responsibly, and to avoid the

stereotyping of Arab Americans, Muslim Americans and people of Middle Eastern descent that can lead to violence against these communities.

Finally, we call on all San Franciscans to join us in condemning bigotry and in assuring that Arab Americans, Muslim Americans and people of Middle Eastern descent continue to be respected, safe, and free to contribute to our joint efforts in healing our city, our nation, and our world.

By Ghada Saliba-Malouf, Chair, Human Rights Commission and Virginia M. Harmon, Director, Human Rights Commission

Capitol Update

Bills, Tax Relief, Parks Information

By State Senator John Burton

In my last column I mentioned that the Legislature was about to wrap up its session for 2001. This time, I want to give you an update on key bills and also share some important tax relief information for seniors and people with disabilities.

Parks: The legislature approved a badly needed park bond that if approved by the Governor and the voters will provide \$2.6 billion for a range of programs including \$225 million for State parks, \$832.5 million for cities and counties for local parks, \$267.5 million for historical and cultural resources and \$745 million for open space and habitat protection.

Low Performing Schools: a joint Senate-Assembly conference committee approved a plan for sending \$400 per pupil to improve student achievement in low-performing schools, throughout the state.

"Raising the tide" for these schools has to be a priority for the state's education system. The \$200 million provided this year is a start, but not as much as they should have gotten.

Workers Compensation: the Legislature approved my bill raising benefits for workers injured on the job. We also sent a bill with some additional cost savings to the Governor to make the program even more workable for employers.

The bottom line is that SB 71, while raising benefits, is still cheaper for employers than what injured employees could get if they were allowed to sue and it's cheaper than the benefits voters would approve if the question were put on the ballot.

Unemployment Insurance: The legislature passed a long overdue increase in unemployment benefits, which could be even more important if the economy continues to slow.

Telemarketers: The legislature approved a bill making it easier for people to stop being hounded by telephone solicitors. This is one of the bills consumers told us they supported the most this year.

Unfortunately, two other important consumer bills — protecting your privacy from companies who sell your information to others and opening up secret settlements like those that occurred with lawsuits against Firestone — died in the Assembly after intense lobbying from business interests.

Given the public support for these bills, I'm sure both will be back next year.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- People 62 and older should remember that you may qualify for money back from the state of California.
- The Homeowner and Renter Assistance Program is designed to provide tax relief for seniors and the disabled.

- The amount you receive will vary depending on income.

- The maximum amount is \$473 for homeowners and \$348 for renters.

To qualify you must have met the following requirements on December 31, 2000: You were 62 years of age or older OR you were blind or disabled AND your total household income for 2000 was \$35,251 or less AND you paid \$50 or more rent per month in 2000 OR you paid property tax on your home.

This program is available to both homeowners and renters.

Be sure to apply if you meet requirements. The deadline is October 15, 2001, so you need to act soon.

If you applied last year, you should have already received the forms for this year. The Franchise Tax Board has a toll-free number (800) 338-0505 for more information.

Free Classes on Online Resources

Are you looking for a job? Planning a trip? Searching for a lost relative or former school classmate? Researching an art term paper? The San Francisco Public Library can help make your Internet search easier if you enroll in one of its hands-on and lecture computer classes. All programs at the Library are free and open to the public.

At sfpl.org, users can access the Library's extensive resources including an enhanced Web Catalog with links to reviews of many books, full text magazine and newspaper databases and the Librarian's Index to the Internet featuring selected sites. Ongoing classes on these resources are held at the Main Library and several branches.

Classes for beginners and those more experienced are offered on a regular basis. Specialized classes taught by SFPL librarians will highlight the many resources available in individual subject departments. These include: Travel Resources on October 11; Researching

for Term Papers on October 16; Jobs and Career Resources on October 24; San Francisco History on October 30; Community Resources on November 14; and Art Reference Resources on November 30. Beginning e-mail is offered on October 4 and November 7.

If English is a second language, the Main Library also offers Hands-on Training for the Catalog and Internet in Cantonese Chinese on October 5 and November 2; Mandarin Chinese on October 19 and November 17 and November 21; and Spanish on October 27 and November 17.

Space is limited and offered on a first-served basis. Basic mouse and keyboard skills are expected for hands-on classes, but for those who have never used a computer keyboard or a mouse, volunteers are available to help teach these basic skills. For more information and a schedule of practice times, please call Volunteer Services at 557-4280.

For dates, times, and locations of upcoming classes, visit the Library's website at sfpl.org (Programs and Exhibitions) or call either Information Services at 557-4401 or Public Affairs at 557-4277.

A Message from Christopher's Books

As in so much of this tragedy, *The New York Times* brought it home:

From the Cantor Fitzgerald bond trading firm alone, the estimate is staggering: 1,500. Not the number of victims.

The children they left behind.

No list of children who lost a father or mother at the World Trade Center or the Pentagon, or on the four planes that terrorists took to fiery ends, has been compiled. But the number of bereft youngsters will probably stretch into the thousands.

As families finally lay hope aside like a useless weapon, accepting that those missing are gone, communities face an enormous challenge: how to comfort, and raise, all the children who lost a parent — in some cases their only parent — in an event of epic dimension.

— Amy Waldman, *The New York Times*, Sept. 23, 2001

Though weeks have now passed and a semblance of ordinary life has replaced the shock of those first few days, we at Christopher's Books can't escape the thoughts of those thousands who lost a parent or parents in the September 11 tragedy. In their honor, and on their behalf, Christopher's will donate 5% of all our October sales to The Children's Aid Society of New York.

A voluntary, nonsectarian agency, Children's Aid provides health, education, recreation and emergency services to New York's neediest children and families. Their assistance to the bereaved families includes, but is not limited to, food, aid, furniture, housing, child care, funeral expenses and medical assistance.

Please join us in this effort by asking your friends and family to buy their books at Christopher's this month. The more books we sell the more we can contribute.

Located on the corner of 18th Street and Missouri, Christopher's Books is open every day from 10 until ten. The number if you need it is (415) 255-8802.



Department of Corrections

In Wini Mann's enthusiastic review of the movie *Haiku Tunnel* (Potrero View, September, 2001), her mention of Brian Thorstenson's outstanding performance as Clifford somehow failed to make it to the printing press. Sincere apologies to Brian and again, congratulations to all.

We've never needed a "sly office comedy" more. Playing now at the Embarcadero Theatre.

— Editor

LIBRARY NEWS

POTRERO BRANCH

1616 20th St. • 695-6640

Closed Sunday and Monday
Tuesday: 10 am - 8 pm
Wednesday: 12 noon - 8 pm
Thursday: 10 am - 6 pm
Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm
Saturday: 1 pm - 6 pm



ENDURING EDUCATION: READING

If we take the time to engage in some serious study about United States foreign and military policy since the end of World War II, it better equips us to understand what may seem unfathomable in the aftermath of September 11. We can offer one of the simplest, but best "coping strategies" readily available to us: reading.

Read about the political history of the relationship between India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the millennium-wars along the northern borders of Pakistan since the time of Alexander the Great.

Read about the military conflicts in recent decades between the Soviet-imposed popular government of Afghanistan and the U.S.-cultivated Taliban guerrillas.

Read about the "turkey shoot," of Iraqi men, women and children, escaping from Saddam Hussein's army during the 1991 Gulf War.

Many patrons come to the library looking for sources to trust because their trust has been shaken. Our adult reference and children's librarians, recognizing that we have a lot of work to do to assemble a collection worthy of your requirements in this subject area, are busy reviewing and ordering books, and assembling bibliographies to respond to your requests. We are here to help you find what you need to know.

MICHOACAN MASKS PROGRAM

On Saturday, October 27, at 4 p.m., Felipe de Jesus Horta, master wood carver and mask maker from Michoacan, Mexico, will lead children in a mask-making workshop.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Infant and Toddler Lapsit takes place Thursday, October 4 and 25, at 10:30 a.m. Thumbs Up Story Time takes place on Tuesday, October 2, 23, and 30 at 7 p.m. The film, "Pumpkin Circle," will be shown on Wednesday, October 3, at 7 p.m.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: BOOKS ON ORDER

* Smita Chandra and Sanjeev Chandra. "Cuisines of India: the art of regional Indian cooking." Here is an exotic culinary journey through the rich and flavorful regions of India. Filled with a wealth of unusual, as well as traditional, recipes annotated with locales,

legends, history, and featuring stunning illustrations.

- * Hohls, Ron. "Natural Treatments for Arthritis." Up-to-date information on arthritis and glucosamine/chondroitin/ SAM-E, fish oil, devil's claw and more. Issued by the University of Bridgeport College, this work is scientifically accurate, easy to understand, independently generated.
- * Johnson, Dave. "How to do Everything with your Digital Camera." This beginner's guide explains how to evaluate and select the right camera, best resources for hardware and software, how to enhance and improve existing images, and how to share them.
- * Kendall-Tackett, Kathleen A. "The Hidden Feelings of Motherhood: coping with stress, depression, and burnout." A University of New Hampshire psychologist and post-partum depression expert, helps mothers explore negative feelings and cope with them. She discusses anger, powerlessness, feeling trapped, and loss of intimacy with one's partner, in an empathic, informed and constructive book.
- * Lee, Wen Ho. "My Country Versus Me: the first-hand account by the Los Alamos scientist who was falsely accused." Wen Ho Lee speaks out about his work at Los Alamos, and his experiences with the FBI, his arrest and imprisonment.
- * Hamilton, Denise. "The Jasmine Trade: a novel of suspense introducing Eve Diamond." L.A. journalist learns of a disturbing teen subculture-parachute kids: wealthy Chinese immigrant teens who live on their own while their parents remain in China. Some join gangs to have companionship. Keen observations make this a gripping story about contemporary Los Angeles.

BOOKS ON ORDER FOR CHILDREN

- * Meltzer, Milton. "The American Revolutionaries: a history in their own words."
- * "Pakistan in Pictures," prepared by the Geography Department of Lerner Publications
- * "Sri Lanka in Pictures," prepared by the Geography Department of Lerner Publications
- * Brace, Steve. "Bangladesh"
- * Fhrlich, Amy. "Wounded Knee: an Indian history of the American West."

Toha Singer
Branch Librarian

TEN YEARS AGO

In The View

HILL FESTIVAL TO FEATURE JAZZ HEADLINERS

The third annual Potrero Hill Festival October 19 was planned to feature performances by violinist Dick Bright, vocalist Keta Bill, the Latin jazz of Vince Lateano and Madeline Eastman, jazz trumpeter Joe Ellis, the Mary Dollar Samba Dancers with Dennis Broughton, the Chris Cobb Band, Hal Solin and "Reunion," and others to be announced. There would also be face painting and kids' portraits, black cowboy storytelling at the Library, crafts, homemade food, and a motorized cable car tour of the Hill.

VIEW STAFF ENDORSES AGNOS FOR RE-ELECTION

The View staff unanimously endorsed the re-election of Mayor Art Agnos. Although expressing disappointment in Agnos' failure to live up to the high expectations held at the time of his initial election, regarding the problems of homelessness and community care facilities for the mentally ill, the increase of the welfare rolls, among other things, the View staff agreed with him on homeporting the USS Missouri, opposition to bringing the Olympics to San Francisco because of discrimination against gays, his support for vacancy control, his support for collective bargaining for city workers, and support for affordable housing. In comparison to his opponents in the mayoral race, Frank Jordan and Tom Hsieh, the choice was clear.

HILL PUBLIC HOUSING KIDS TO BE TESTED FOR LEAD DANGERS

Approximately 450 children under the age of five who live in the Potrero public housing complexes were to be tested for lead poisoning under a plan launched by Mayor Art Agnos. At the same time the Housing Authority was to begin testing public housing units for dangerous levels of lead, usually found in paint. According to the Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning, up to 20 percent of San Francisco children under the age of six have too much lead in their bodies. Even at low levels, lead can impair children's learning ability, stunt growth damage hearing, cause reading problems and make children hyperactive. The Housing Authority has begun an outreach program to encourage families to have their young children take the free comprehensive medical checkups that include a lead test.

NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS PROPOSED FOR POTRERO HILL

Three proposed Potrero Hill area developments were presented to the members of the Potrero League of Active Neighbors (PLAN). A brick warehouse at 701 Minnesota Street was already well along in the approval process. The exterior shell would be seismically reinforced, while the interior would be converted into 54 condominiums and four live/work units. Ten percent were to be sold below market rate. A set of live/work units proposed for 26th and Connecticut by Asian Neighborhood Design, which already operated a training center on the land directly in front of where they propose to build 10 low income live/work units, in three different buildings, got an unenthusiastic reception. A third plan to build 29 condominiums at 16th and Rhode Island was severely criticized.

AND TWENTY YEARS AGO... Jan Sabre's death was announced in an article celebrating the life of the sculptor who had moved his family to the Hill in 1952 when "the old lady was still grazing her goats on the hillside near San Bruno Avenue" . . . The director of the Neighborhood House, Enola Maxwell, received the gift of a bronze sculpture from the estate of former Hill artist Blanche Phillips Howard . . . A story by Judy Baston profiled "Hill Policewoman" Terrie Ivy after her first year of service with the Crime Prevention Community Relations Unit.

— Bernie Gershater

THE VIEW AT THE LIBRARY



If you are searching for a story that ran in the Potrero View a long time ago, take a look at the bound volumes at the Potrero Branch Library which contain every issue from the very first one in 1970 through December 1991. We will have more recent issues bound in the not-too-distant future, but in the meantime, check with the librarian who may have them on file.

The Old Willow Tree

As a native of New York City I was, of course, born with a copy of *The New Yorker* clenched between my toothless gums. In the fullness of time, after my eyes could focus, I began a study of its cartoons, and not too long after I learned how to read I fell under the spell of its elegant essayist, E.B. White.

Following the attack on my hometown I, like so many others, started casting about for balm in the form of the written word. I dove into poetry, into Shakespeare, and ran my finger down the index columns of Bartlett's Quotations. And then I turned to E.B. White.

The first of his books that I took from my shelf was the slim volume titled "Here is New York."

Originally written for *Holiday* magazine during a hot spell in 1948, it is White's graceful paean to the city's boundless energy, its teeming populace, its comforts and delights, its inconveniences and its loneliness.

White sifts through his memories of the city

he knew and loved in his youth, and muses somewhat ruefully on all the changes he has seen. In the last paragraphs of the essay, he speaks of the change that most deeply troubles him — one that "people don't much talk about" — that now the city "for the first time in its long history is destructible," and could be quickly annihilated by an atomic attack.

"A single flight of planes no bigger than a wedge of geese can quickly end this island fantasy, burn the towers, crumble the bridges, turn the underground passages into lethal chambers, cremate the millions. The intimation of mortality is part of New York now: in the sound of jets overhead, in the black headlines of the latest edition."

Not far from White's old home in the East Side neighborhood known as Turtle Bay, the United Nations headquarters was rising — the "new City of Man," he hopefully calls it. Built on the rubble of tenements and slaughterhouses, it was to be another "interior city" for New

York to enfold, this one "to shelter . . . all governments, and to clear the slum called war."

And with this paragraph, White concludes his bittersweet love letter to New York:

"A block or two west of the new City of Man in Turtle Bay there is an old willow tree that presides over an interior garden. It is a battered tree, long suffering and much climbed, held together by strands of wire but beloved by those who know it. In a way it symbolizes the city: life under difficulties, growth against odds, saprise in the midst of concrete, and the steady reaching for the sun. Whenever I look at it nowadays, and feel the cold shadow of the planes, I think: 'This must be saved, this particular thing, this very tree.' If it were to go, all would go — this city, this mischievous marvelous monument which not to look upon would be like death."

— Ahigail Johnston



Understanding Homeless Issues through Research

By David Matsuda

We all remember "the test" we thought we aced. The test that was returned to us the next day dripping red ink. This "I got it, I don't got it" experience had life-changing potential for us, for from that moment on we knew the consequences of being unprepared and overconfident.

In the social and behavioral sciences, the "I got it, I don't got it" encounter, is standard fare. Stories are legion of the seemingly well prepared anthropologists, psychiatrists, and social workers who have conducted interviews and confidently written up their research only to find out through peer review or the subject population, that their work had somehow missed the mark. From that moment on we researchers know that if our data does not address the "fluid" nature of a human identity over a life span, we will miss the mark and suffer the consequences for being unprepared and over-confident.

To begin to unravel a life history, we must first understand that our identities are fluid because they are: 1. negotiated, 2. edited and audience specific, and 3. part fact and part fiction.

Negotiation begins early in life as our identity is first formed in the give and take atmosphere created by our families. Away from home our negotiations continue when we encounter others who may be predisposed by their experiences to view or act towards us in ways we were never raised to anticipate.

Second, we selectively edit the details of our lives to meet the perceived demands of specific audiences. As such, there are things that you would tell an insider that you would never tell an outsider; that you would tell a woman but not a man; or a grownup but not a child.

Last, facts aside, part of our identity is fictional. An example, those family stories about our infancy that we now retell as a first person memory. Or the way we weave the stories of others into our own eyewitness accounts of close calls, momentous occasions, terrorist attacks.....

Adding homelessness to this mix only complicates matters. For some of the homeless, unresolved traumas trigger severe denial and memory repression.

As a consequence, their life histories contain large chronological gaps, and fuzzy, conflicting, or non-existent details about family, education, work. For others, mental health issues are compounded by a lack or misuse of prescription medicine, and/or the abuse of illegal drugs.

This over, under or non-medication may result in delusions or a paranoia that impairs both memory function and communication skills. Last, even a person without these pre-existing conditions can "snap" under the weight of the homeless experience. Those who have snapped are in "survival" mode, eating out of garbage cans, not bathing or washing, and unable to communicate with or accept help from others.

INTERVIEWS

The homeless are, by definition, a vulnerable population. As such, the subjects of these stories were guaranteed anonymity. So the following are composites of several interviews, that provide insight into the lives of the homeless without revealing the names and details of any one life.

When Thomas Roylance isn't in and out of shelters, or under an overpass in inclement weather, you can find him sleeping in a park on the other side of Potrero Avenue. For protection and mutual aid, he and several other homeless men have banded together to pool resources and take turns guarding their belongings. Even though accusations of dishonesty sometimes fly back and forth, there is a remarkable trust between Thomas and his buddies.

Thomas is the middle child of seven siblings; six boys and one girl. In our first interview Thomas told me that he was born in San Francisco in the mid 1940s. In the mid 1950s, at nine years of age, he moved to Los Angeles with his parents. In the 1960s, when Thomas was 18, he and his family were back in San Francisco. In the 1970s, his parents died, and Thomas was the victim of a hit and run accident that left him unable to do physical labor. Now 56, Thomas is a much loved character on the streets that border Potrero Hill and the Mission District. That's the chronology, now on to the interview and the details.

I sat patiently, peering at Thomas' craggy face and lantern eyes. "Is that

about right," I asked? "This is your life!"

We both smile at my game show reference.

"Oh yeah. Decade by decade, that's it." Silence ensued as Thomas took a good long look at me. "You know," he said leaning towards me and whispering conspiratorially, "this is primetime for me. I mean I'm usually makin' money now."

"How much would you have made by now," I asked, simultaneously reaching into my wallet pocket.

"At least six dollars," he said, looking at his hands.

Ten dollars passed from hand to hand, and he smiled. "So now let's fill in the details. That okay?"

He nodded. "Okay, and then I'm goin' to McDonalds."

"So how long have you been homeless?"

"Five years," he said confidently.

Alone with my thoughts, I referred back to the chronology. Quickly I did the math. No comfort in the numbers. According to our first interview he's been homeless for 26 years, between the ages of 25 and 56.

"How long have you worked?" I asked, now stuttering ever so slightly.

"Forty years," was his clipped reply.

But wait, I thought to myself, in our last interview you were playing hooky at 16, goin' fishing, talkin' with hobos, and outsmarting that big Irish truant officer. "And, how many years in the military?" As I finished the question, I fumbled and dropped my pen.

"Eight years in Nam, but you don't want to go there. No, don't even go there. It's too painful."

"All right," I countered, seeking a compromise. "How old were you when you were drafted, and how long did you serve?"

"Well, I was a big kid, so I fooled em' and joined up when I was 15. And I was in service and in country for 11 years. In fact, my folks died while I was out on patrol."

"Oh man," I replied sympathetically, suddenly realizing that Thomas' time in Nam and his first year of homelessness had somehow overlapped, "they died while you were out fighting. How did that feel?"

"Dave, you think of more questions, and I'll answer em' all next time."

"Alright, but..., but but how did you feel?"

"I'll tell you next time, I'm hungry and I'm going to McDonalds."

EVERYBODY'S MOM

As the streets around us come to life, Mom starts working the crowd: "Hi, how are you? Mornin' hun, where's your better half today?" A little girl runs up to Mom and waits expectantly. Mom finishes her conversation with another passerby, and gives the youngster a hug. In return, the primly dressed child hands Mom a dollar that her parents have just given her. "Love you sweetheart," Mom calls after her as the little girl rejoins her sauntering parents.

The sun begins to rise over the storefront horizon across the street. The streaming light illuminates Mom's false teeth, gentle eyes, and the slight bend of a once broken nose. She sits on this busy sidewalk from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., for about \$35 dollars a day.

"Hi," Mom says to a passing man. He ignores her. "Hello," Mom says to a woman who smiles uncomfortably as she passes.

"Mom, what's the first thing you want our readers to know?"

"That we homeless are human beings. We're not scum, and most of us are not scamming. I'm not out here because I want to be. I'm not hooked on drugs. I'm just trying to survive and somehow get off the street."

"What keeps you from getting off the street?"

"Don't be lazy, go get a job, some people say," Mom replies tersely. "Well I've tried, but there's age discrimination. I'm 60 years old. Also, I don't have a P. O. box, phone, or e-mail address, so there's no way to stay in touch with someone who wants to hire me. Government General Assistance is only \$340 a month, and the shelter I stay in puts 60% of that amount into a savings account each month. The money from the government and charities is enough to maintain you, but not enough to get you off the street."

Even though Mom was born in Denver, her earliest memories are of Laramie, Wyoming. At 14 she met Roger and moved with him to Woodland, California. He joined the Navy, and when she was 18 they were married. After their fourth child Mom quit her job as a file clerk and became a full-time, stay-at-home mother.

Roger was abruptly discharged from the Navy, and quickly went through 13 jobs in one year. When Roger's behavior turned abusive and he was in and out of

(Continued on Page 6)

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The Potrero Hill Association of Merchants & Businesses and the Potrero Hill Archives Project cordially invite you to their second

Evening of Potrero Hill History

Saturday, October 20th, 7 - 10 p.m.
Daniel Webster Elementary School
465 Missouri Street (between 19th and 20th)



Photo restored and printed by Potrero Hill's Digital Pond

**History Night is back by popular demand,
in a bigger venue with room for everyone!**

Join us for another fun and fascinating evening of video and live reminiscences from Potrero Hill "old timers," a presentation on the natural history of our hill, and videos and photographs from the Potrero Hill Archives Project.

Understanding Homeless Issues through Research

(Continued from Page 5)

prison, Mom gave the three oldest children to her mother-in-law, and moved to San Francisco with her youngest son James. She found work as a file clerk, and normally returned to their lives until Mom slipped on a wet floor in a supermarket and broke her ankle. Mom was about halfway through the healing process when she got hooked on pain-killers, and then on crack. Her now 30-year-old son left her saddled with debt, and Mom was soon evicted.

"Do you remember your first day as a homeless person?" I asked her.

"Yes, it was so painful and humiliating. I never thought I'd be homeless. I broke down while I was on drugs and wasn't in any shape to ask for help, so I slept

for a year in Golden Gate Park." Mom pauses as a storeowner gives her a cigarette and some coffee. But things are getting better real soon. Two young men, who are in the terminal stages of AIDS, help me collect my social security, and the three of us are movin' up to Oregon in two weeks. I'll have a home again, and two sons who'll treat me like a Mom should be treated.

When I went to check on Mom two weeks later she was in her usual spot.

(In the next issue, we look at available services for the homeless population on Potrero Hill.)



Mule Ears and Blue-eyed Grass

CITY OF MIRACLES / CUIDAD DE LOS MILAGROS



Experimental projection of the saintly death by Rene Yanez

Visit a metropolitan spirit world, explore cultural diversity and celebrate the Day of the Dead at City of Miracles/Ciudad de los Milagros from Saturday, October 13 through Saturday, November 3 at SomArts Cultural Center, 934 Brannan St in San Francisco. The exhibition kicks off with an opening reception October 13 from 7-10 pm. Admission is free.

Day of the Dead/Dia de los Muertos is celebrated on November 2 in Mexico and parts of the United States. It is a day that people honor their deceased loved ones by building altars and making offerings.

At SomArts, wander down winding streets and discover curator Rene Yanez and producer Jack Davis' dramatic City of Miracles/Ciudad de los Milagros, a unique two-block long installation of altars, sculptures, flat work digital art, videos, sign art, light based and projected media—created by over 50 local and international contemporary artists—installed on architecturally sealed buildings and dwelling. Housed in the cavernous SomArts Cultural

center, this luminous city of translucent scrim and framing features skyscrapers, storefronts, dwellings, as well as a museum, library, church, and hospital.

Also included in this master-planned hamlet is a special school to house students visiting the show. The City of Miracles/Ciudad de los Milagros, a place for people to consider the miracle of life and the mystery of death, is conceptualized and built by artist/designer Lalo Cervantes, architect Nick Gomez, and designer Wil Hsieh.

Founded in 1975, SomArt is a 30,000 square foot city-owned cultural center with two exhibition spaces, a 250-seat theater, rehearsal spaces, printmaking, pottery and design studios. SomArts' mission is to celebrate the multicultural texture of San Francisco by presenting art reflective of the City's different communities. City of Miracles/de los Milagros is funded by the San Francisco Art Commission.

For more information about the "City" please phone 552-2131 x.111. To host an event, please call (415) 552-1770 ext. 3.

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Jumbo Black Tiger Prawns

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Simply Nutritious
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all flavors except organics
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\$5.00**



Seventh Generation
Bathroom Tissue

jumbo -4 rolls -500 ct

\$2.99

Paper Towels
180 ct

\$1.99



Brown Cow
Nonfat Yogurt

8 oz. -reg 99¢
all flavors

69¢



Made in Nature
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assorted varieties
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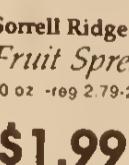
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Kettle Foods
Kettle Crisps

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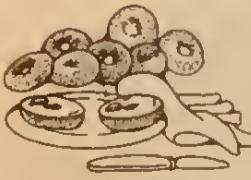
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ELDER ARTS CELEBRATION invites you to view an exhibition of the work of alumni, faculty, staff, and students over the age of 65 from several of the Bay Area's premier art teaching institutions at the Crucible Steel Gallery, 2050 Bryant Street, at 18th Street, 3 to 5 p.m. A reception for SF State University artists will be held Sunday, October 21, 3 to 5 p.m. RSVP, by Tuesday, October 9, to 441-2649.

POLL WORKERS are needed for the Tuesday, November 6, Consolidated Municipal Election. Must be US citizens, registered to vote in San Francisco, and at least 18 years of age by November 6, also eligible are US citizens 16 to 17 years of age, who are attending San Francisco high schools. Eam between \$82-\$105 for one day's work, 6:15 a.m. to 9 p.m. Apply in person to the Department of Elections Office, City Hall, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

CONTEMPORARY CRAFTS AND FINE ARTS at the San Francisco Arts Festival, October 19-21, in the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium, 99 Grove Street. Admission is \$6.50 for adults, \$3 for children under 12, kids under 6 free. For information, phone 530-756-6356.

ART EXHIBIT AT CITY HALL, through December 16, "The People of San Francisco: Lives of Accomplishment," paintings and drawings by Elaine Badgely/Amoux, City Hall ground floor, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, 12-4 p.m. weekends. Admission is free.

FREE WORKSHOP ON MEDICATION INTERACTION, Saturday, October 20, 10 to 11:30 a.m., at On Lok Senior Health, 4430 Mission Street. Space is limited. Register at 292-8715.

THE 13th ANNUAL POTRERO HILL FALL FESTIVAL will be held October 14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Jackson Recreation Center and Playground, 801 Arkansas at 17th Street. Free admission.

HEAR 'ORCHID FEVER' AUTHOR Eric Hansen speak about the fascinating world of these unusual plants, and receive an orchid from the Conservatory of Flowers, and help restore the Conservatory, at a fundraiser for the Conservatory, Thursday, October 11 at 7 p.m. The talk will take place at the Anglers Lodge in Golden Gate Park. The cost of the event is \$75 for members of Friends of Recreation and Parks, and \$100 for non-members. Space is limited for information and reservations contact Monica Lai at 750-5441 or monica@frp.org

THE HALFBAKED PLAYERS PRESENT the West Coast premiere of Madeleine Olnek's play, "Co-dependent Lesbian Space Alien Seeks Same," along with the curtain raiser "The Jewish Nun," October 11-28, Thursdays to Saturdays at 8:30 p.m. and Sundays at 7:30 p.m., at the Studio of Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th Street. Preview October 11-12, opening Saturday, October 13. All tickets are \$15. For information and reservations call 861-5079.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the AIDS/ Hep Nightline, providing telephone emotional support, crisis counseling, and information for anyone with HIV or Hepatitis C concerns. A training class starts in October. Call 984-1902, day or night.

SLUG OFFERS composting and organic gardening classes in October: Urban Backyard composting, October 6, 10 a.m. to noon, at the Garden for the Environment, 7th Avenue at Lawton Street. Admission is free.

FREE CONCERTS AT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER, 544 Capp Street: Tuesday, October 9, 5:30 p.m. Christopheren Nomura, bancone; Sunday, October 28, 4 p.m., Janet Marie McLain, piano; Saturday, October 27, 8:30 p.m., Potaje, flamenco dancing. For information call 647-6015.

THE BAY AREA SPORTS HALL OF FAME has announced that the 2002 Youth Fund grant applications are now available for non-profit organizations and schools for grants that provide needed sports equipment. The deadline for returning applications is January 31, 2002. Call 352-8827 for an application or download the application at www.bashof.org.

ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL seeks information/escort and gift shop volunteers. Anyone interested should call 641-6538. Orientations will be held October 11, November 8, and December 13, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Volunteers Services Office, main hospital building, 3555 Cesar Chavez Street.

THE PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO'S RICH MILITARY HISTORY and architecture will be highlighted Saturday, October 13, during a one-mile walk around the historic main post. Join a National Park docent at the William Penn Mott Jr. Visitor Center on Montgomery Street, from 1-2:30 p.m. For information and reservations call 561-4323. Free.

A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE. Learn about the plants, animals, and geology of the San Francisco Peninsula. National Park docent Holly Mitten will lead a moderately paced two-mile walk on the Presidio of San Francisco, Sunday, October 14, from 1-3 p.m. Meet in front of Pershing Hall at the corner of Funston and Moraga Avenues. Reservations are required. Call 561-4323.

FROM QUEEN ANNE AND SECOND EMPIRE to Mediterranean Revival, architectural styles of the Presidio of San Francisco reflect more than a century of changing times and attitudes. Join National Park Service docent Nora Klebow on an easy one-mile walk Saturday, October 20 to learn about the architecture of the Main Post. For information and directions call 561-4323.

THE VICTORIAN ALLIANCE OF SAN FRANCISCO will present its annual house tour of interiors of restored Victorians in the Liberty-Hill Historic District, on Sunday October 21, 1-5 p.m. The tour begins at Guerrero and Liberty Streets. Tickets are \$25 general admission, \$20 student/senior. For information call 826-1437.

OCTOBER EVENTS AT MODERN TIMES BOOKSTORE:

Thursday, October 25, 7:30 p.m., Mexican author John Ross in a reading of "Against Amnesia," a new volume of poetry, and "The War Against Oblivion - Zapatista Chronicle," Ross will also speak on the gutting of a recent Indian Rights Law by Congress, Fox's first year as president, and the struggles for human rights against the forces of globalization.

Sunday, October 28, 12-5 p.m., and **Monday, October 29**, 7:30 p.m., a two-day festival celebrating the art of the book, and the authors and artists who create them. Sunday's program deals with the die-hard do-it-yourself publishers who produce alternative, underground comix, chapbooks, zines, and artist books. There will be workshops on bookbinding, silkscreening, and zine making. On Monday there will be a panel discussion with four authors and artists who took their work to print via independent publishers and do-it-yourself know-how.

Tuesday, October 30, at 7:30 p.m., Modern Times begins a biweekly series of lectures providing background information on the current international crisis, including the history and political of the Middle East, US involvement and foreign policy in the region, the role of oil in Afghanistan, and the repercussions of military retaliation.

THE FLORIST MAYER: The Life and Times of Angelo Rossi, San Francisco's Mayor from 1931-1944, will be the subject of the San Francisco Historical Society's program on Tuesday, October 9, 8:00 p.m., at the UCSF Laurel Heights Campus, 3333 California. Call 775-1111 for information.

FREE TWILIGHT RAGA CONCERT, featuring seven Indian classical musicians on sitar, violin, tabla and mridangam, and vocalist Ramaswamy Thiagarajan, at the Outdoor Esplanade, Yerba Buena Gardens, Mission between 3rd and 4th streets, Saturday, October 6 at 7 p.m. For information call 543-1718.

Dedication of the Enola D. Maxwell Middle School of the Arts

Dedication ceremonies for the Enola D. Maxwell Middle School of the Arts, 655 De Haro Street, will take place Saturday, November 3 with an outdoor banquet for the community at 1 p.m. The official ceremony will begin at 2 o'clock.

Before the opening day of school this fall, the school was known as the Potrero Hill Middle School of the Arts. The school is part of San Francisco Unified School District.

Enola D. Maxwell is a San Francisco legend who, for more than 30 years, has been Executive Director of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, a community center for residents of the Hill. Under Maxwell's direction the center atop Potrero Hill has gained national recognition for its many activities.

The ceremony is open and free to the public. Residents of the Hill are encouraged to attend this event and hear the many plans to be implemented as a result of this change. A highlight will be the unveiling of the new school sign. With this name change, Ms. Maxwell becomes one of only three people to be so honored in San Francisco during their lifetime: the other schools are Rosa Parks Elementary and the Alice Fong Yu Alternative.



Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

953 De Haro Street, San Francisco, California 94107

(415) 826-8080

Enola D. Maxwell, Executive Director

ONGOING MEETINGS:

Al-Anon	Thursdays, 6:30 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous	Mondays & Thursdays, 8:00 pm
Narcotics Anonymous	Wednesdays, 8:00 pm
Omega Boys Club	Tuesdays, 7:30 pm
Employment Workshops	Fridays, 10:00 am

Board of Directors Meetings are held monthly on the Third Monday

FACILITIES:

Auditorium for theater presentations, lectures, weddings, workshops and receptions

Bulletin Board with events and employment listings

Gymnasium and recreational space

Meeting space rental available for use by the community

All services and activities are FREE

Potrero Hill Neighborhood House is wheelchair accessible. If you should have the need for the services of a certified American Sign Language interpreter, or a sound enhancement system, or meeting in an alternative format, please contact 415-826-8080 at least one week prior to event. Potrero Hill Neighborhood House is a non-profit agency serving the most needy of the community with emphasis on youth and education.

SUPERVISOR SOPHIE MAXWELL will appear at a town hall meeting on Saturday, October 27, from 10 a.m. to noon, at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. She will introduce representatives from the police, Muni, Department of Parking and Traffic and the Department of Public Works, who will answer questions about public safety, traffic and Muni problems, clean streets and anything else the public will want to ask. For more information contact Greg Asay or Sarah at Maxwell's office, 554-7670.

NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY WILL COME ALIVE through interviews with long-time residents and a slide show of vintage photos focusing on the natural history of Potrero Hill. The free evening is sponsored by the Potrero Hill Archives Project and the Potrero Hill Associations of Merchants and Businesses, and runs from 7 to 10 p.m., Saturday, October 20, at the Daniel Webster Elementary School, 465 Missouri Street.

Annual Open Studios Help Local Artists

San Francisco Open Studios 2001 is the premier showcase of fine art in the City. Despite the lack of studio space and other pressures on the local art scene resulting from last year's dot.bomb and this year's dot.bust, San Francisco continues to be one of the premier locations for the creation of quality fine art.

For 26 years, San Francisco Open Studios has allowed the public a unique access to this cultural resource. Every weekend in October, Bay Area residents and tourists have the opportunity to visit more than 750 artists in their personal creative environments.

This year artists from the following neighborhoods are participating on the following weekends:

October 6-7: Castro, Duboce, Mission, Noe Valley, Glen Park, Bernal Heights, Eureka Valley

October 13-14: Richmond, Sunset, Fort Mason, Marina, Pacific Heights, Haight, Western Addition, Buena Vista, West Portal, Diamond Heights, Twin Peaks, Mount Davidson

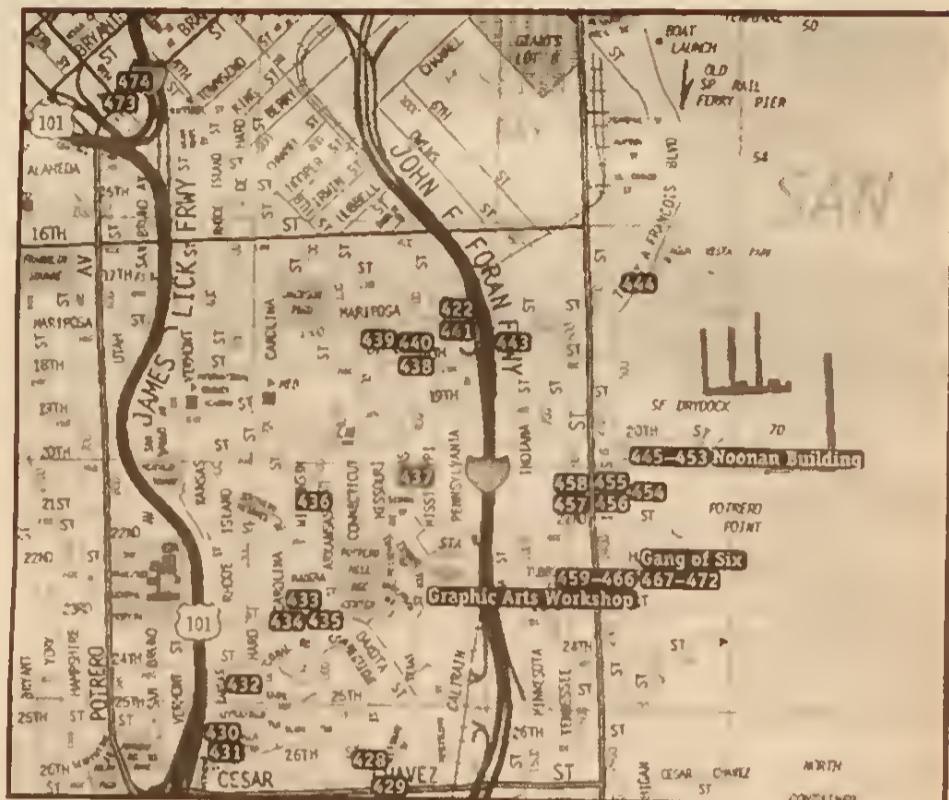
October 20-21: South of Market, Potrero Hill, North Beach, Russian Hill,

Tenderloin, Financial District, Bayview, Portola, Excelsior.

October 27-28: Hunters Point

Painting, sculpture, mixed-media ceramics, print-making, furniture, glass, jewelry, and photography will all be featured in studios around the city. The month-long series of events is a unique opportunity for art lovers to "Take Art Home" — purchased directly from the artists themselves. Whether you are looking for a piece of art to treasure for a lifetime or simply a day in which to indulge the senses, you can find it at Open Studios.

The studio locations and a map will be printed in the Bay Guardian each week in October. Additionally, ArtSpan is publishing a 112-page free magazine titled "San Francisco Open Studios: The Guide". The magazine will feature artwork by most of the participating artists, informative articles, and other valuable information. Visitors may also view one piece of art created by each of the Open Studios artists at SOMARTS Gallery, 934 Brannan Street, San Francisco, from October 6-28, and online at www.sopenstudios.com.



Map showing locations of Potrero Hill artists' studios open the week-end of Oct. 20-21.
Map courtesy of Thomas Bros. and Artspan

428 Joseph Mangrum
mixed media, painting, photography,
printmaking
1850 Cesar Chavez Building #3

429 Marilyn Mattson
painting, drawing, watercolor
1850 Cesar Chavez Building #3

430 Nina Stanley
painting, drawing
1464 Kansas Street

431 Kevin A. Thayer
sculpture, drawing, mixed media
1464 Kansas Street

432 Manu Schnetzler
photography, technology/new media
1345 Rhode Island Street

433 Ann Brinkley
painting, printmaking, mixed media
1912 23rd Street

435 Lori Winning
mixed media
1920 23rd Street

436 Lynne Rutter
painting, murals, decorative painting
629 Wisconsin Street

437 Revelation Studios
mixed media, sculpture, painting,
collage
611 Texas Street

438 Delisa
mixed media
1345 18th Street

439 Alicia de
mixed media, digital imaging
243 Missouri Street

440 Erin Carney
painting, photography
298 Texas Street, #8

441 Gila Lane
painting, photography
208 Pennsylvania Avenue

442 GMH Asian Princess
photography, painting
1001 Mariposa Street, #308

443 Lisa Pfeiffer
painting
615 Indiana Street

444 Anna Poole
painting
855 China Basin, Houseboat Pelican
@ "The Ramp"

445 Ruth Belmeur
painting, sculpture
Noonan Building
Pier 70

447 Joe Cunliffe
painting
Noonan Building
Pier 70

448 Marsha Giegerich Torkelson
painting, mixed media
Noonan Building
Pier 70

449 Connie Harris
sculpture, painting
Noonan Building
Pier 70

450 Susan Hyde
photography, mixed media, fiber
Noonan Building
Pier 70

451 Leslie Laurien
painting
Noonan Building
Pier 70

452 Marti McKee
drawing, printmaking
Noonan Building
Pier 70

453 Daniel Phill
painting
Noonan Building
Pier 70

454 Biba
painting, drawing
1072 Illinois Street

455 In Color II
photography
2475 3rd Street, #251

456 Zanne Christensen
painting, mixed media
2325 3rd Street, #216

457 M. Koller
mixed media, painting, etching
2325 3rd Street, #216

458 Pat Wipf
drawing pastels
2325 3rd Street, #340

459 Jimena Correa
printmaking
Graphic Arts Workshop
2565 3rd Street, #305

460 Alice Gibbons
printmaking, drawing
Graphic Arts Workshop
2565 3rd Street, #305

462 Cecilia Lim
printmaking, book arts
Graphic Arts Workshop
2565 3rd Street, #305

463 Gloria Morales
printmaking, artist books, mixed media
Graphic Arts Workshop
2565 3rd Street, #305

464 Cornelia A. Nevitt
printmaking, stone sculpture, painting,
ceramics
Graphic Arts Workshop
2565 3rd Street, #305

465 Sarah Newton
printmaking, drawing
Graphic Arts Workshop
2565 3rd Street, #305

466 Anthony Ryan
printmaking
Graphic Arts Workshop
2565 3rd Street, #305

467 Julie Baker
painting
Gang of Six
2565 3rd Street, #305

468 Art Hazelwood
printmaking, woodcuts, oil painting
Gang of Six
2565 3rd Street, #305

469 Missy Nery
printmaking
Gang of Six
2565 3rd Street, #305

470 Mirna Rivera
printmaking
Gang of Six
2565 3rd Street, #305

471 Xavier Viramontes
printmaking
Gang of Six
2565 3rd Street, #305

472 Hideo Yoshida
mixed media
Gang of Six
2565 3rd Street, #305

473 Carlos Loarca
painting
935 Brannan Street

474 Betsie Miller-Kusz
painting
934 Brannan Street, 2nd Fl.



Potrero Nuevo Fund Supports Artistic Projects

Up to four \$12,500 awards for artists' projects on urban and social environmentalism are available from Potrero Nuevo Fund Prize, an annual program that awards funds to artistic projects that use literary, media, performing, or visual arts in the service of social and/or environmental awareness and change.

The goal of this program is to promote awareness of the local urban environment through artwork that, preferably, is driven by political activism. Eligible projects should be community-based, produced in collaboration with a local artist, and culminate in a highly accessible public exhibition or performance.

Preference is given to innovative projects which involve historically underserved communities. Partnerships between artists and non-profit organizations or community groups are encouraged.

Up to four prizes, each a maximum of \$12,500, will be awarded. The Potrero

Nuevo Fund Prize is administered by New Langton Arts. Applications are now available.

For information or to receive an application, call New Langton Arts at 626-5416, download the application from www.newlangtonarts.org, or send a 6"x9" SASE to 1246 Folsom St., S.F. 94103.

A free workshop will be held to discuss the program and application procedure on October 16, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at SOM-AR, 934 Brannan St.

Entries must be postmarked no later than Nov. 16, or hand delivered by 5 p.m. on Nov. 16. Late applications will not be accepted.

The Potrero Nuevo Fund is administered by the Tides Foundation and supports Bay Area community based arts and environmental organizations. Favor goes to projects that increase accessibility to the making and viewing of art for those traditionally excluded from these experiences.

For further information please contact Rachel Churner at 626-5416.



Astrid Hadad
Maritz Lopez photo

Mexican Performance Artist at Brava Theatre for One Weekend Only

Straight from Mexico's hip cabaret scene, Lebanese-Mexican singer Astrid Hadad comes to the Brava Theatre Center (formerly the York Theatre), 24th and York streets, for ONE WEEKEND only! Mexican-born Hadad performs with her back-up group, Los Tarzanes, combining dance, song, and surrealistic costumes — which conjure up a visual blend of Carmen Miranda, Nina Hagen and Frida Kahlo — on Friday, October 19 and Saturday, October 20 at 8 p.m.

Hadad's shows are a fusion of song, theater, and cabaret, with a fanfare of music and extravagant costumes. Combining a feminist perspective with a comedienne's view of the world that takes dead aim at Mexico/US political realities, Hadad's over-the-top body language translates into any language. Whether she's got *nopales* (prickly pear cactus) growing from her shoulders, flames shooting from her Aztec headdress, or a glowing Bleeding Heart of Jesus beating in her chest, Hadad gives her audience a uniquely Mexican style of Latin kitsch performance art. Non-Spanish speakers will be equally entertained. Tickets are \$30 main floor, \$26 mezzanine. For more info, contact City Box Office at 392-4400 or visit www.brava.org. Parking is available at S.F. General Hospital (San Bruno and 24th streets, 2 blocks from the theater).

Jenkins and Company Premiere New Work at Theater Artaud

The Margaret Jenkins Dance Company, in association with Theater Artaud, presents the upcoming World Premiere of a new work, "May I Now (18 Questions in the Space of an Answer," at Theater Artaud (450 Florida Street), beginning Friday, October 19 at 8 p.m.

Now in her 28th season, acclaimed choreographer Margaret Jenkins has created a bold new work staged in nine episodes of varying length. With the language of movement and gesture at its center, "May I Now" explores the sometimes comic, sometimes silent, sometimes mysterious bodily conversation of yes and no, maybe, forget it, someday and never. Breaking away from the traditional proscenium structure for viewing dance, the new work aims to position audiences on opposite sides of the set. Performances run through Saturday, October 27. Tickets for opening night performance on October 19 are \$35 and include a post-performance reception with the dancers and creative team. Tickets are \$20 and \$25 and may be purchased at Theater Artaud by calling 621-7797 or www.ticketweb.com.

Performing Arts Roundup

By Julia Segrove



California Bach Society

Jim Block photo

Behind-the-Scenes Look at New Work, "Running Into Open Doors"

ODC/San Francisco announces the return of its wildly popular event series, "ODCunplugged" on Tuesday, October 9, in the ODC Theatre and Gallery (3153 17th Street at Shotwell), at 6 p.m. The event is a rare opportunity to get an intimate, first look at KT Nelson's new work, "Running into Open Doors." In this behind-the-scenes peek, KT — one of ODC/San Francisco's three resident choreographers — and the dancers explore the exhilaration and emotional implications of unbridled movement invention. General admission tickets are \$15 and include complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres in the Mission Gallery. Advance purchase recommended. Tickets and more info available online at www.ticketweb.net and through the ODC Theater Box Office at 863-9834.

West Coast Premiere of "Isaac" at A Traveling Jewish Theatre

A Traveling Jewish Theatre presents the West Coast Premiere of "Isaac" at A Traveling Jewish Theatre (between 17th and Mariposa streets) from October 5 to November 11. Directed by Joan Schirle, the play features Aaron Davidman, Corey Fischer, and Naomi Newman in play-

wright David Schulner's new interpretation of the sacrifice of Isaac, one of the richest and most troubling stories in the Bible. Developed at Sundance Theatre Lab, Lincoln Center, and the Public Theatre, the production also features discussions with artists following October 5 & 13 performances. Show times are Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Opening Night Gala Reception on Monday, October 8 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 adult, \$20 senior, and \$12.50 student. Thursday nights are always pay-what-you-can (for door sales only, subject to availability). For tickets, call 399-1809 or visit www.ticketweb.com.

Best of Bach Comes to Potrero Hill

The California Bach Society opens its season of choral masterworks with performances of Bach's six motets. For these beloved works, California Bach Society will be joined by Ruth Escher, Andrea Fullington, Suzanne Elder Wallace, Scott Whitaker, and Hugh Davies, who will perform the motet 'Jesu Mene Freud' one voice to a part. Under the artistic direction of Warren Stewart, the choir will perform at St. Gregory Nyssen Episcopal Church (De Haro at Mariposa streets) on Sunday, October 21 at 4 p.m. A pre-concert lecture will be held 45 minutes before the performance. Tickets are \$25/General Admission, \$18/Seniors, \$12/Students. For more info, call 440-BACH or visit www.calbach.org.



Michael St. John
Nadine DeFranoux photo

"Chasing the Blues" Comes to Rasselias Jazz Club

In celebration of San Francisco's rich jazz history and a precursor to the upcoming S.F. Jazz Festival, "Chasing the Blues," opens at the Rasselias Jazz Club (Fillmore near Geary Blvd.) on Friday, October 5, at 7 p.m. Produced by Theater Rhubarb, the musical, set in the 1930s and 1950s, depicts the rise and fall of a jazz singer (Michael St. John) and his shaky connection with a female saxophone player and a conniving record producer. Fusing original tunes by local musicians, performed by the Mike Klein Trio, "Chasing the Blues," emphasizes the challenges of friendship and success, racism and sexism in the entertainment industry and the resilience of the creative spirit. Directed by Mark Nishimura, the musical is performed Friday-Saturday, October 12-13, 7 p.m. and Friday-Saturday, October 19-20, 7 p.m. \$10 with a two-drink minimum. For more info, contact Theater Rhubarb at 751-0439 or go to www.thetheaterrhubarb.com.

"Sirena, Queen of the Tango" at Theatre Rhinoceros

Theatre Rhinoceros, in association with El Teatro de la Esperanza, presents "Sirena, Queen of the Tango," at Theatre Rhinoceros, (Mission and South Van Ness) from September 6-October 6. Written by Guillermo Reyes, Obie-winning author of "Men on the Verge of a Hispanic Breakdown," the romantic camp fantasy, complete with elaborately choreographed tango production numbers, follows the adventures of a detective who is investigating the deaths of Sirena's many husbands, but with a TWIST! Sirena, the seductive and mysterious Tango Queen, is not only played by a man, the character IS a man, which creates abundant angst and soul searching for the handsome, beefy detective who falls totally under Sirena's spell. Directed by Hector Correa ("References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot") and featuring the talents of Matthew Martin ("Christmas with the Crawfords"), Steven Bass, and Jennifer Fagundes, the show plays Wednesday-Saturday, at 8 p.m. Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18, Thursday-Sunday, \$20 Friday, \$22 Saturday. For tickets, call the Rhino box office at 861-5079.

Big Contest Win for Bark Park

By Lester Zeidman

I looked it up. The Potrero View has never had a contest. It was just one of those spur of the moment things when the layout page was almost done except for that glaring hole. So I filled it up with a little contest.

A little contest indeed. Suddenly the entries started flowing in as Potrero View readers and their children filled my box with oodles of great responses. We had over 50 entries, with one family submitting 15 names complete with maps and pathways. A simply grand entry that encompassed a wide range of disparate views of the future of our new park.

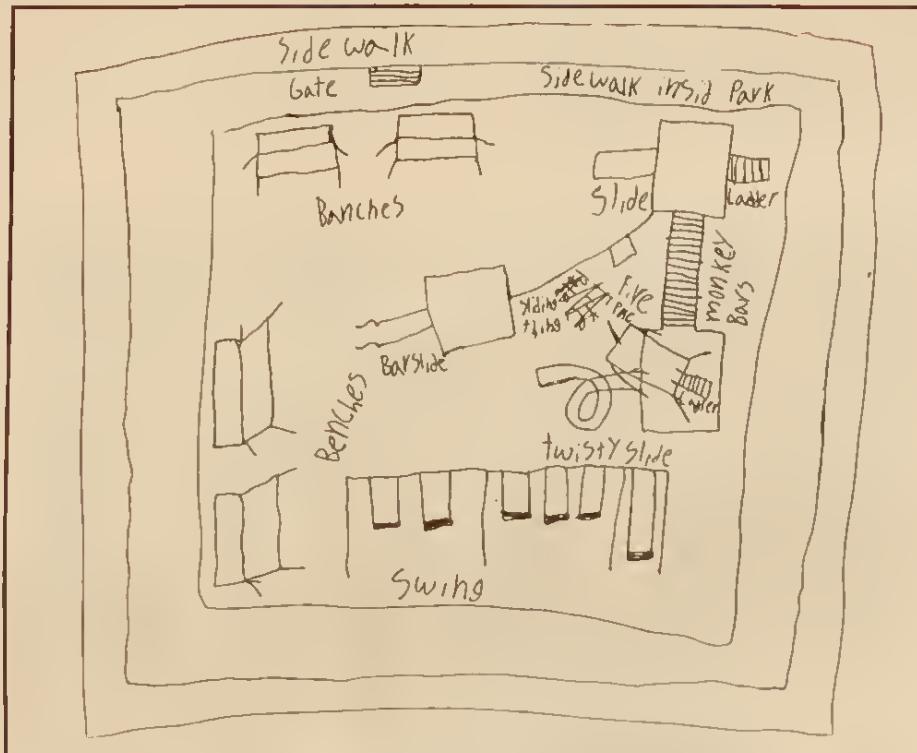
So the View staff pondered its new responsibility with great care. Reviewing all the entries and selecting the prizewinners. Many entries reflected the true passions of the submitters, while other participants chose names that simply honored the Hill on which they live. Or their dog.

Bark Park took the prize. Submitted by 8-year-old Celia Robertson, Bark Park aptly symbolizes this minor brouhaha and reflects that anything we have to say on the subject could best be summarized by man's best friend. Dog lovers unite! Bark Park will certainly be dog friendly and leash free.

My personal favorite was Rainbow Flower Park submitted by Iris Feldman (4½ years old). This young lady looked at that concrete hole, fenced and wrapped in black plastic, and envisioned rainbows and flowers. I almost wept when that entry came in. How could I turn my back on such optimism? Iris, that is certainly worth a pint of ice cream.

Without stating the obvious, Dot Bomb Park by Bob Gervasio was a popular choice. Dotcom.all.gone Park came from Peter & Twainharte. 4-year-old Kyle Burke matched both. Since Kyle is not yet skilled in writing contest entries, Mom helped out and transcribed this multiple entry of Com Done, Com Down, and Calm Down Park. Mom wasn't sure of the exact wording but was wise enough to allow that they all seemed to be appropriate. Perhaps Bob and Kyle were in cahoots especially since both entries were verbally transmitted.

Now who can resist Dog Poo Patch? Sound like a park in your neighborhood? Envisioning the green grass and the traditional dog hazards of park walking, everyone thought this was funny except for those who live on Tennessee and Minnesota streets. Far be it from me to make fun



The future vision of Potrero Hill's hopefully future park located on the block bordered by Rhode Island and Kansas streets and Mariposa and 17th streets.

by Celia Robertson and Marlena Donjacour

of Dogpatch but Jeanne Choe's entry might work great if Esprit Park wants a new name. Shana Murray-Wolf chimed in with North Pasture Park but I think we'll have enough trouble with the dogs that bringing cows into the picture might tax the city gardeners a bit much.

Frank Kingman wants to honor our past eccentricities with Emperor Norton Park. Certainly the emperor deserves a park named in his honor. How about the aptly named Rosa Park. Honoring our past is a great tradition and this could be a great opportunity to make a big statement for a small but brave woman.

What would you like to do today? Would you like to go for a walk in the park? The future vision of our new park is for fun and recreation. Julia Tejeda wants a flower maze with an ice cream stand at its center. Xander Walbridge was thinking about a swimming pool when he came up with Potrero Hill Plunge. Will Simons sees himself at the corner of Mariposa and Kansas with his skateboard in hand. Picture a smooth

sloping path curving up and back all the way down to 17th Street. They'll never find the Showplace because everyone will be at Skateboard Square.

Megan Adams will need an act of Congress if she wants to declare it Big Hole National Park. At first I didn't understand the entries by Lorenz Zelaya and Rubin Hudes, submitters of Sherwood Forest and Nottingham Forest respectively. They were the Robin Hoods of the Park Contest. They want to take from the rich and provide to the poor. Well I'm sure we could work out a tax deduction for Mr. Kaufmann's property should he start feeling ultra generous. And look at all the new friends he would make!

I also want to thank my friend Jessa Bettger who worked diligently promoting the contest and helped make it a fun time for all. And thanks to Ron Kaufmann for being a good sport. I know things must look bleak now but Ron Kaufmann Park doesn't sound all that bad either. Just please don't let it become Eyesore Park.

Name the New Park Contest Winners

First Prize:

Bark Park
Celia Robertson

Second Prizes:

Dot Bomb Park Bob Gervasio
Rainbow Flower Park ... Iris Feldman

Honorable Mentions:

Com Done
Com Down
Calm Down Kyle Burke
Goat Hole Wanda Pfloog
Flower Park Daniel Bumimovitz
Potrero Hill Plays Julia Tejada
Dog Poo Patch Jeanne Choe
Emperor Norton Park Frank Kingman
dot.com.all.gone ... Peter & Twainharte
DOt GOne S.pot Kayren Hudburgh
Potrero Park Mary Musynski
North Pasture Park ... Shana Murray-Wolf
Can't Start a Fire without a S Park
Springsteen Green Jake Baudhuin
Skateboard Square Will Simons
Friendship Comer Jason Hedberg
PARK Jeanne Charles
Whole Urban Park ... Bumimovitz Family
Nottingham Forest Lorenz Zelaya
Sherwood Forest Rubin Hudes
Life Is Good Park Charlie Brown
Big Hole National Park Megan Adams
Rosa Park
Potrero Hill Plunge
Backyard Baseball Field
Nice Guy Park
It's a Good Life Park
Potrero Hill Trail Forest
Flower Maze Park
Back to Nature Park
50 Different Ways Park ... Oona Robertson
Xander Walbridge
Celia Robertson
Peter Walbridge
Lael Robertson
Thanks to everyone who participated!



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Benefit Evening at Memory House Antiques on the Hill

Memory House Antiques and San Francisco Magazine will host a benefit evening for the Child Abuse Prevention Society of San Francisco (Caps) at the grand opening on October 11 of the new Memory House showroom at 255 Potrero Ave.

The Child Abuse Prevention Society, founded in 1982, is a nonprofit organization committed to breaking the cycle of child abuse by supporting the prevention services of the TALKLINE Family Support Center and Caps.

Memory House owner James Lee, a third generation antique dealer who resides in the Dogpatch area of Potrero Hill, is carrying on in the antique dealership his parents began in 1985. Lee says he is "very excited about combining the business' Belmont and San Mateo facilities and expanding them into the 17,000

square foot ground floor of the old Ford-er Cornice Works at 255 Potrero Avenue, and showcasing the new business site at the benefit for Caps.

The October 11 benefit will include culinary delights, goody bags, and jazz, including a live auction. Some of the items being auctioned include: A private Parisian Antique Market Tour with Memory House owner James Lee, including three-night stay, French cuisine, special wholesale prices on furniture purchases, and assistance with shipping and restoration; a French Louis Philippe two-door walnut armoire, circa 1840; and a three-course French Chef Dinner for eight proposed by a member of the Ritz-Carlton's culinary team.

For more information about Child Abuse Prevention Society, call 905-4599.

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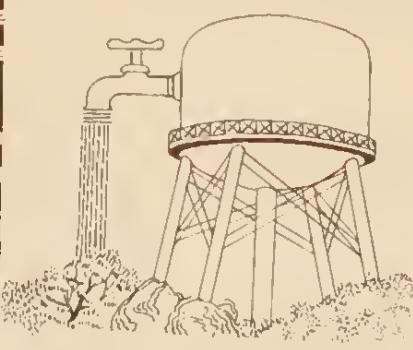
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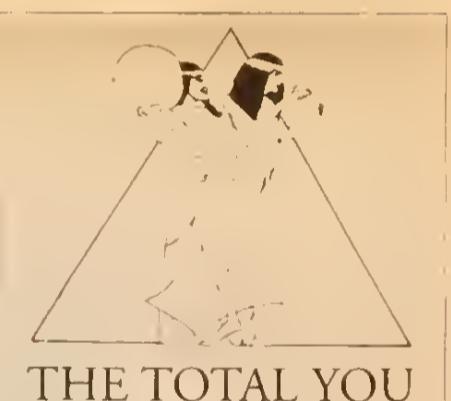
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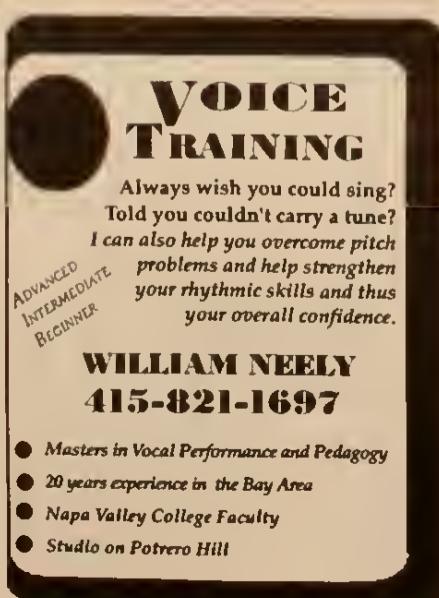
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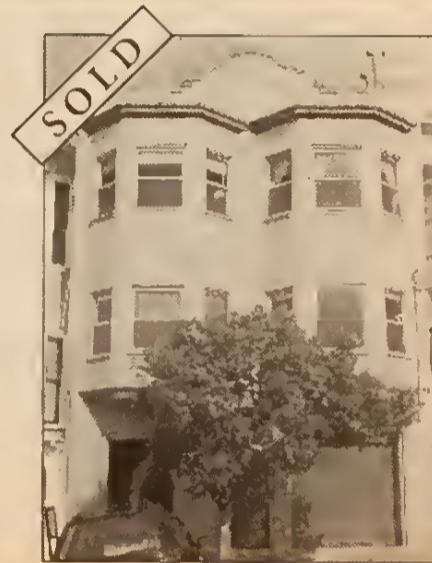
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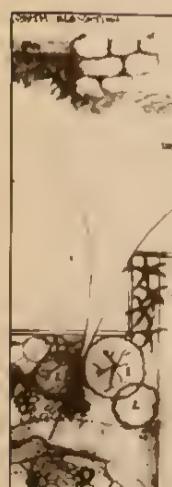
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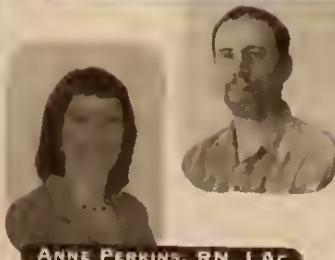
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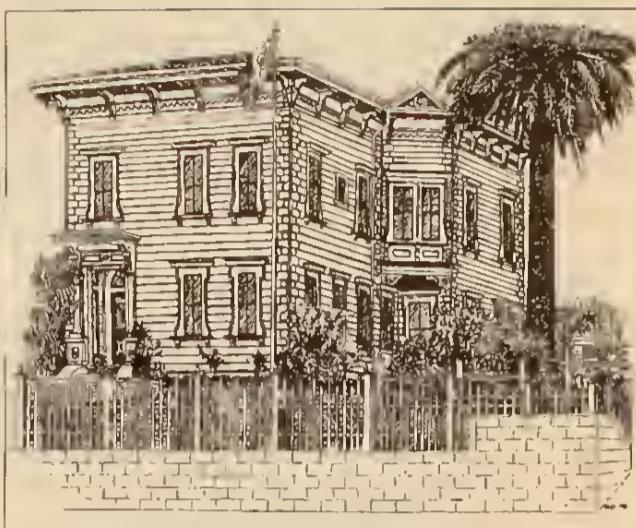
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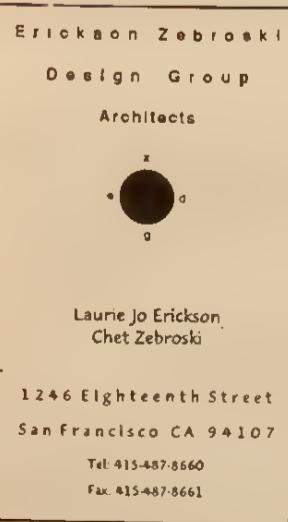
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